

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. Claims 1, 7, and 11 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Cline et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,698,879). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Amended claim 1 recites, in part, a user-to-user communication system that includes transmission means for recognizing a first audio signal which is inputted from a user, converting the first audio signal into a first text data, and transmitting the converted first text data, applied with a transmission code, into a counterpart terminal via the network wherein the transmission code identifies the converted first text data as being text data instead of an audio signal. In contrast, Cline merely discloses a speech to text file conversion which allows the user to add tags to the text to emphasize or annunciate certain parts of the text. Cline is not concerned with identifying the transmitted file as a data file as opposed to a text file, since in Cline, all the files are transmitted as a text file. See, for example, column 2, lines 5-20. Accordingly, Cline fails to teach or even suggest a user-to-user communication system that includes transmission means for recognizing a first audio signal which is inputted from a user, converting the first audio signal into a first text data, and transmitting the converted first text data, applied with a transmission code, into a counterpart terminal via the network wherein the transmission code identifies the converted first text data as being text data instead of an audio signal, as recited in amended claim 1.

Claim 7 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 since claim 7 recites similar features to the features discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 2, 4, 6, and 10 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claims 1 and 7 by virtue of their dependence upon claims 1 and 7.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3, 5, 8, 9, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Cline in view of Towell (U.S. Patent No. 5,911,129). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 3, 5, 8, and 9 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claims 1 and 7 by virtue of their dependence upon claims 1 and 7 and because Towell fails to remedy at least the deficiencies of Cline discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 7.

Claim 11 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claims 1 and 7 since claim 11 recites similar features to the features discussed above and because Towell fails to remedy at least the deficiencies of Cline discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 7.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

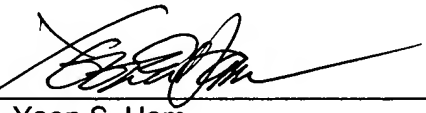
Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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